

# CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*"Making connections and offering opportunities for  
faith, love, and service"*

**Worship 10 am**

**Education Hour –TBD**

**TOTAL STEWARDSHIP: PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, AND SERVICE**

*Pastor*

**Rev. Daven Oskvig**

*Office Manager/Ministry Assistant*  
**Janelle (Martin) Davis**

*Minister of Music*  
**Paul Staley**

*Financial Secretary*  
**Doris Schanzlin**

*Custodian*  
**David Wolf**



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## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9am – 2pm**

**Office Closed: 10/12, 11/11, 11/26-27**





For several years I would help my uncle on his farm to bring in the harvest and prepare things for the winter. This reflective time would often prepare me for the work of ministry in Advent, Christmas, Epiphany and through Lent. Images and ideas flowed during the many hours spent alone in a tractor and combine, or beside a grain bin and corn dryer. While I have not been able to make this trek for several years, as the weather changes and the status of the harvest spill in, my ears perk up and my imagination flows.

This year I heard a report on some preliminary findings from farmers who piloted the use of drought resistant corn. While yield levels were not the same as in the past couple of years, there was more yield per acre than the non-drought resistant varieties of seed provided. As we have been putting together our ministry plan for 2021, we are working under the constraints of this unique time, trying to figure out how we maintain and grow ministry on the yield we expect. To a degree, we are working on the drought resistance in our ministry. This is not a genetic modification to spirituality, as it is to the seed corn, but asking of ourselves and the church how resistant to drought (challenging times) it is? When things get tough (financially, physically, spiritually) are our faith and church strong and vibrant enough to withstand the challenge? When the need is greatest, are we still able to adequately connect? Are we as individuals and a community able to rise to meet the challenge so that the yield of grace and love is unaffected and unencumbered even in, especially in, times of hardship? I pray that as we celebrate God’s bounty this year, we think and plan for the future. May we seek to have not just a drought resistant faith, but a drought *proof* faith. That when friend and family, when community and region, when nation and world are desperate for the water of God’s grace to drench the furrows of parched souls where hope has evaporated, we may **“Make Connections and Offer Opportunities for Faith, Love and Service”** providing relief and restoring hope.

*Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Daven*

## October Birthdays



Carolyn Day .....	2 *
Brad Loliger.....	2
Janelle (Martin) Davis.....	3
Nicholas Darling.....	4
Susan Cautadella .....	9
Greg Maliken .....	11
Corrin Stier.....	12
Julie Wrisley.....	12
Aly Stier.....	19
Janet Hill .....	27

## November Birthdays

Ian Johnson.....	10
David Mitchell.....	10
Carol Corsaro .....	13
Grace Markello .....	14
Chris Sciolino .....	15
Audrey Johnson .....	16
Lynn Ramsey.....	16
Jim Beller .....	20
Barbara Weaver.....	28
Alicia Bermudez .....	29
Sean Johnson .....	29
Amelia Oskvig .....	29
Sue Estee .....	30



## October Anniversaries

Thomas Kossler & Kari Kibler .....	October 2, 2014
Ally & Corrin Stier.....	October 3, 2015
Thomas & Susan Cautadella.....	October 8, 1988
Matt & Amy Thormahlen.....	October 8, 1984

## November Anniversaries



Ian & Nicole Johnson.....	November 14, 2014
Geoff & Janet Hill .....	<b>50 Years!</b> November 21, 1970
Jim & Laurie Hannon.....	November 22, 1980
Guy & Sharon Ferrelli.....	November 24, 1974
Al & Julie Wrisley.....	November 24, 1962
Jim & Sally Pollard.....	November 28, 1981

Our deepest sympathies go out to Diane Klenk and her family and friends upon the death of Chris Klenk on August 29, 2020.



*Thanks So Much!*

A great big **THANK YOU** to all who participated in the "Shower of Love" for me and my fiancé on September 5! The bridal shower was just lovely and it was great to see so many of you after so many months apart!

We are incredibly grateful for everyone's generosity and look forward to putting the funds to good use to purchase a new couch!!

With love,  
Janelle & Jeremiah



Photos by Peggy Bermudez

*Thank You!*

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for all of the emails, cards and letters from so many of you offering care, concern and prayers. We're told that a support community is

invaluable to cancer patients, and I can whole-heartedly confirm that this is true. Your outpouring of support means more than you know, and I am deeply grateful!

- Paul Staley



***Worship is now available on Sunday mornings at 10 am, both in person and online!***

***Live-streamed worship will be available beginning at 10am each Sunday, with a direct link posted on our website and Facebook page to our livestream:***  
***[www.youtube.com/CUMCAmherst/live](http://www.youtube.com/CUMCAmherst/live)***

***Recordings of each service will also be available on our YouTube channel for viewing once the service has ended.***

**Please be advised of new guidelines for those wishing to worship together in person at Christ Church:**

**-All will be required to wear a mask.** We will have a limited supply of masks on hand for those who come without one.

**-Enter through one door at the main entrance.**

**-Use hand sanitizer** at the provided station before entering the Sanctuary.

**-Maintain social distancing** (6 feet apart) from those not within your immediate family.

**-Please do not enter the building if you are experiencing any symptoms** (fever, cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, chills, diarrhea.)

*We will continue to provide online opportunities for worship and connection. Our [YouTube channel](#) is the best way to find new content and worship services. We encourage you to 'Subscribe' to our channel! You'll be notified each time new content is uploaded, and the more subscribers we have, the fewer ads will appear!*

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM

The Children's Ministry Team has developed an alternative instruction model during the COVID-19 health crisis. Each child will receive a kit which



includes scripture stories and activities that can be completed at home. We are hoping that the children will take photos and send written feedback from their participation in the next few weeks as we try to incorporate Christian ministry in a new way.



## Stewardship Campaign 2021 Celebrating Christ Church Connections



2020 presented us with challenges that we could not have imagined a year ago. Through times of grief, anxiety, isolation and frustration, Christ Church continues to maintain and strengthen our connections with one another through familiar ways and through

innovative, virtual experiences. Your generosity has been key to Christ Church's ability to explore new opportunities for faith, love and service through these past months. During worship on October 4, 11, and 18, a video series will explore the experiences of our Christ Church family with disconnection and new ways of connecting. Pledge cards will be mailed the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in October. Our goal for 2021 is \$165,000 in pledges. On October 18<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate our promises to support Christ Church in 2021 through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

## Finance Update

We have been so blessed by the continued, steady financial support of the congregation during the pandemic. Through August, pledge contributions are right on target with the budget. We have been able to keep and pay all staff in full. With the receipt of federal paycheck protection funds, a decrease in operating expenses due to building closure, and a reduction to Shared Ministry payments, we are on solid footing for many months to come.

Many thanks to those of you who have contributed to the fund for our Custodian, Dave Wolf, to help with his hospital bills. This account is still open and further donations are more than welcome.

Thanks so much for your support.

-CUMC Finance Team



The Health and Wellness Team will again be hosting a Black Friday blood drive on Nov. 27 from 11:30AM to 4PM.

Call Geoff Hill (316-1522) to make your appointment for either before you shop or after.

With the Coronavirus limiting direct contact, it is extremely important that we do our part in maintaining an adequate supply of blood products. Remember "The need is constant, the gratification is instant" so let us all do our part. Call me. I'll be here!



Thanks, Geoff

## Missions of the Month

*Opportunities to share ourselves, our talents and our resources with others*

### Family Promise

We as a church family have been providing meals for the homeless through Family Promise for the past several years. They are in need of food more than ever as the school lunch program has been disrupted with the pandemic. During this time, they have had to reconfigure how to provide food for their clients. They are requesting different kinds of unprepared foods on different days of the week. If you would like to help out with this ministry, please see a member of the **Outreach Team**. More information can also be found on their website.

<https://fpwny.org/bring-families-groceries>

### Outreach Team Members

Lee Watson, Kathy Weaver, Peggy Bermudez, Peg Nye  
Debbie Laberta, Barb Critoph, Diane Klenk

### Turkey Baskets

Another tradition has been collecting food for Turkey Baskets at Thanksgiving for area families. There will be some derivation of that this year and we will keep you informed as more details become known.



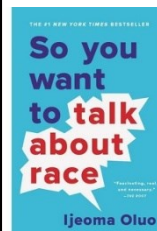
### Community Food Drive



The Outreach Team will be holding a **Community Food Drive** from **11:00a—1:00p on Sunday, October 4**. We will be collecting pantry staples such as: canned soups, ramen noodle cups, small jars of coffee, small jars of peanut butter and jelly, Lunchables, and Chef Boyardee meals. In these challenging times, there are more people in need of food.

***Thank you for your continued support of the many missions of our church.***

## Niagara Frontier District United Methodist Women Network of Leaders



Saturday, November 7, 2020  
10:00 a.m. – Noon on ZOOM



Presentation and Discussion of the book

***So You Want to Talk About Race...***

By Ijeoma Oluo

We will be using materials from the UMW online study.  
*This book is part of the UMW Reading Program and counts as two books in the Social Action category.*

*A Zoom invitation will be sent prior to the event.*



### United Methodist Women

Keeping in Touch will look a little different this November. Instead of having a breakfast program, and updates on our friends whom we visit, we will be providing addresses for cards and notes and coordinating window visits where feasible. Please look for information in the weekly updates from Christ Church and in e-mailed UMW Updates. Staying connected and keeping everyone safe is more important than ever in these challenging times!



### CIRCLE NEWS

Circle of Joy will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, to visit Akron Falls Park. Please bring your lunch and be ready for a walk and a relaxing day.



**Daylight Savings Time ends  
November 1. Turn your clock back  
1 hour before you retire on  
Halloween, October 31!**





## Spiritual Information Team

### AOL (Adult Opportunities for Learning)

Sundays following worship in the Family Room  
and on YouTube CUMCAmherst

AOL: The Gospel According to Leviticus:  
Finding God's Love in God's Law by David Kalas.

An all-church read (postponed from May)  
*Books available from Christ Church*

Do you struggle with knowing how the Old Testament law aligns with the good news found in the New Testament? For many, while the New Testament is seen as the good news of God's love through Jesus, the law is set aside as tedious, troubling, or irrelevant. Some even see it as an example of an unloving God. With author and pastor David Kalas, discover and experience the love of God in Old Testament law. A donation of \$16 for the book is suggested.

**NEW Monday Evening Zoom Study** (October 5, 12, 19, 26; 7-8 p.m.)

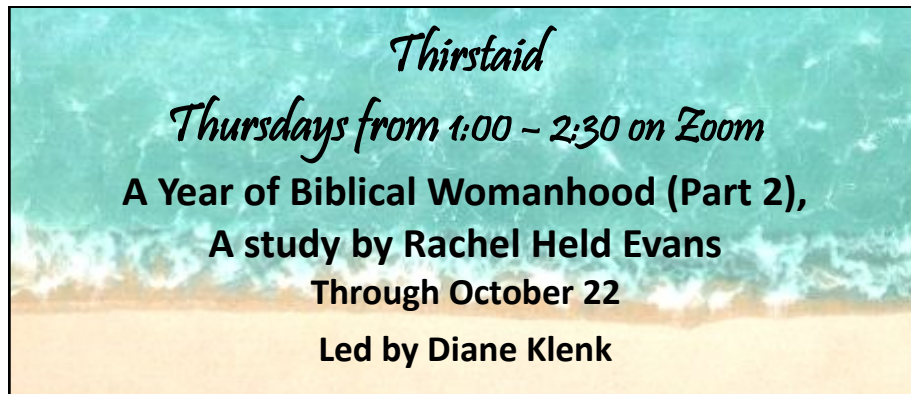
**Finding Peace in an Anxious World**, a spiritual growth study by staff of the Urban Village Church, uses the book of Proverbs and "The Serenity Prayer" as a guide to help Christians find their way through anxiety, worry, and fear and move towards God's peace. Each lesson is based on part of the serenity prayer - Serenity, Acceptance, Courage, and Wisdom. This study explores ways to discover peace through scriptural and spiritual disciplines so that we can be rooted in God and energized to live fully as disciples of Christ. Books are \$10.00 if you would like to read along, but lessons will be easy to follow whether or not you have the book. If you would like a book, please contact Peggy Bermudez at 626-4897 or [bradbermudez@hotmail.com](mailto:bradbermudez@hotmail.com)

**Exploring Sunday Scriptures: Tuesdays at Noon**

Join Rev. Oskvig in a conversation about the scriptures which will be explored in the sermon on the following Sunday.

**Feasting on the Word** with Rev. Oskvig – posted Wednesdays on our website: [www.christchurchamherst.org](http://www.christchurchamherst.org).

## Spiritual Formation Team



*As events unfold in the coming months and it is safe to use our building more frequently, it is our hope that each spiritual formation opportunity will be available in person and online. Please watch for updates and prayerfully choose the way that is best for you to participate.*

The Team will be meeting in October to plan spiritual formation opportunities for November and December. Please watch the emailed Weekly Update for details.



### **Church Charge Conference**

On October 21, 2020 Christ Church will hold a Charge Conference led by the Rev. Daven W. Oskvig. This meeting will be reserved to members of the Church Council who shall undertake the annual business of the church, which includes: Clergy Compensation Report, Election of Trustees / Nomination Report, Report of Lay Speaker, Report of Pastor (active and retired), Parsonage Inspection Report, Outreach / VIM Report, Safe Sanctuary Compliance Form, Imagine No Racism Question Form, and Disciple Making Pathway/Process/Plan.

Meeting time is 7pm and access to the meeting is yet TBD  
(in-person or via ZOOM)